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**Human Rights Council**

**44th session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of Uzbekistan**

*(8 November 2023)*

**Intervention by Ukraine**

*(Speaking time: 1 min 25 sec, 222 words)*

**Thank you,** **Mr. Vice-President,**

Ukraine welcomes the distinguished delegation of Uzbekistan headed by First Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan Mr. Akmal Saidov and thank it for the presentation of the national report. We take positive note of the efforts made by the Government of Uzbekistan to implement the recommendations to which it committed itself at the last session of the UPR.

Ukraine acknowledges the progress made by Uzbekistan in the sphere of human rights protection, its efforts towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, the promotion of human rights education programmes, ensuring gender equality and cooperation with international and regional human rights mechanisms.

Taking into account the steps made, we encourage the Government of Uzbekistan to continue its efforts and **recommend**:

* to continue to improve its legal and administrative framework in the field of human rights promotion and protection, in accordance with its international obligations;
* Expedite the review and ratification of the key mechanism for monitoring and preventing torture, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
* To take further steps towards ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Ukraine wishes Uzbekistan a successful review.

**I thank you.**